# Missouri Department of Mental Health
## Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse

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# Where Does Missouri Rank in...

**Drunk Driving**: In Missouri, 34 percent of traffic fatalities result from alcohol impairment. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that about 340 individuals lose their lives annually on Missouri roadways due to drunk driving. Missouri ranks 15th worst in the country.[1]

**Binge Drinking**: Binge drinking is the purposeful intent of becoming intoxicated by heavy consumption of alcohol in a short period of time. Nearly 24 percent of Missourians age 12 and older engage in binge drinking. Missouri ranks 19th worst in the country.[2]

**Alcohol Problems:** Alcohol is the most common substance of abuse. Of those Missourians age 12 and older, an estimated 8.77 percent have an alcohol dependence or abuse problem. Only eight other states have a higher rate.[2]

**Methamphetamine Laboratory Incidents**: With 1,471 incidents in 2008, Missouri reports the highest number of methamphetamine labs in the country. Although, the state is not a top-producer of the drug. 2008 federal methamphetamine seizures for Missouri totaled 14 kgs. while that for California exceeded 2,200 kgs.[3]

**Methamphetamine Treatment Admissions:** In Missouri, 9.8 percent of treatment admissions identify methamphetamine as the primary problem. Only 15 other states report a higher rate. In a given year, about 4,200 Missourians will enter treatment for a methamphetamine problem.[4]

**Young Adult Pain Reliever Use:** Prescription drug abuse is becoming an increasing concern across the country. For those Missourians age 18 to 25, an estimated 13.64 percent have used pain relievers for nonmedical purposes in the past year. Missouri has the 17th highest rate in the country.[2]

**Youth Marijuana Use:** Marijuana is the most common substance of abuse for youth entering treatment in Missouri. An estimated 13.00 percent of Missouri's youth age 12 to 17 have used marijuana in the past year. Missouri has the 30th highest rate in the country.[2]

**Young Adult Cocaine Use:** Cocaine is the second most common illicit drug problem for those entering treatment in Missouri. For Missourians age 18 to 25, an estimated 6.83 percent have used cocaine in the past year. Missouri has the 24th highest rate in the country.[2]

**Spending on Substance Abuse Treatment & Prevention:** Missouri spends an average $4.88 in state funds for each Missourian on substance abuse treatment and prevention programs.[5] Twenty-seven states spend a higher amount of general revenue per person.

**Cigarette Smoking:** About 30 percent of Missourians age 12 and older are current smokers. Missouri ranks 6th worst in the country.[2] In Missouri, smoking-induced deaths number over 9,300 each year.[6]

**Beer Tax:** Missouri state excise tax on beer is 6 cents per gallon. Only Wyoming has a lower tax on beer.[7] Research suggests that higher alcohol tax reduces youth use as well as traffic fatalities.[8]

**Cigarette Tax:** Missouri state excise tax on cigarettes is 17 cents per pack. The state has the second lowest cigarette tax in the country.[9] Studies show that youth, in particular, are price sensitive to the cost of cigarettes and that increased taxes can deter youth use.[10]


Sources:
[1] Fatality Analysis Reporting System. BAC Fatality by State 2007.
[2] National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2005 and 2006.
[3] US Drug Enforcement Administration (2008).
[4] Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) (2007).
[5] Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant.
[6] Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Bureau of Health Informatics (2007).
[7] Federation of Tax Administrators. State Beer Excise Tax Rates (January 1, 2008).
[8] National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Alcohol Research & Health 62-72 (2002).
[9] Federation of Tax Administrators. State Excise Tax Rates on Cigarettes (January 1, 2008).
[10] National Health Policy Forum. Increasing the Federal Cigarette Tax: A Means of Reducing Consumption? Issue Brief 717 (1998).



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